

AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 11 MAY 2006

New PCT National Phase Application  
Docket No. 2691-000044/US  
IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Yasushi KOBUCHI et al.  
Int'l App. No.: PCT/JP2004/016521  
Application No.: **NEW APPLICATION**  
Filed: May 11, 2006  
For: SEPARATOR (as amended)

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
**Mail Stop PCT**

May 11, 2006

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application. Prior to examination of the present application, please consider the following:

**Amendments to the Title** begin on page 2 of this Preliminary Amendment.

**Amendments to the Abstract** begin on page 3 of this Preliminary Amendment.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 4 of this Preliminary Amendment.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 5 of this Preliminary Amendment.

	Claims remaining after Amendment		Highest number previously paid for		Present extra
Total	16	-	20	=	0
Independent	1	-	3	=	0